

Message Text

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ACTION INR-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 PM-03 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01

DRC-01 /015 W

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O R 171545Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO USDAO/KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

AMEMRASSY K

NSHASA IMMEDIATE 1257GDRCNFO RUEAUSU/ASD/ISA WASHDC

USAF/XOXXGIF WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 823

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUSAKA 2147

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (HINTON)

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR AND MRS. HINTON TRAVEL TO LUSAI

REF: KINSHASA USDAO MSG 161440Z OCT 14 (NOTAL); LUSAKA 2112
(NOTAL); KINSHASA 8731 (NOTAL)

1. WILLING PROCEED WITH REQUEST FOR OVERFLIGHT/LANDING
CLEARANCE, BUT WE CANNOT HONESTLY HOLD OUT MUCH HOPE
AND IT ESSENTCJL FOR KINSHASA TO MAKE FIRM BACK-UP
ALTERNATE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS (LUSAKA 2112).

2. GRZ RESISTANCE TO CLEARANCE FOR US ARMY PLANE
FROM KINSHASA MIGHT PROVE LESS RESOLUTE THAN WE WOULD DOO
ANTICIPATE IN
CASE OF "TAINTED" US MILITARY AIRCRAFT
FROM SOUTH AFRICA. IT CONCEIVABLE WE WILL BE
PLEASANTLY SURPRIZED, AS SOMETIMES HAPPENS HERE,
BUT CONSIDERABLE DELAY IN PROCESSING CLEARANCE REQUEST
SHOULD BE EXPECTED ESPECIALLY IN MIDST OF
INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION. EVEN IF WE PRESSED
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HARD WITH SPECIAL EFFORT, WHICH WE VERY RELUCTANT

TO DO, DECISION COULD WELL BE HELD LITERALLY UNTIL
LAST MINUTE AND WE SHOULD DEFINITELY BE PREPARED
FOR TURN-DOWN. FOREIGN MINISTER LIKELY BE SYMPATHETIC
AND HELPFUL, BUT HE WILL NO DOUBT ENCOUNTER STIFF
OBJECTION FROM ZAMBIAN MILITARY AND DECISION MAY
HAVE TO GO TO PRESIDENT WHO IS MINISTER OF DEFENSE.

3. FOLLOWING ALTERNATE BACK-UP FOR KINSHASA-LUSAKA
TRAVEL MIGHT BE CONSIDERED: FLY KINSHASA-LUBUMBASHI
BY US ARMY BEECH 90 AS PRESENTLY PLANNED. PROCEED
SUNDAY NOV 3 BY CONSULTE VEHICLE TO NDOLA
(APPROXIMATELY 3 HOUR DRIVE, INCLUDING TIME FOR
CUSTOMS/IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES) FOR CONNECTION AT
1900 WITH AIR ZAMBIA FLIGDT QZ585 WHICH ARRIVES
LUSAKA 1940. VARIATION COULD BE OVERNIGHT KITWE
OR NDOLA TO CATCH ONE OF FOLLOWING NDOLA-LUSAKA
FLIGHTS MORNING NOV 4: QZ421 (DEP 0700, ARR 0755);
QZ423 (0800-0855); QZ 581 (0815-0910). SAME MORNING
THERE ALSO FLIGHT FROM KITWE: QZ401 (0820-0915).
IN EVENING NOV 4 THERE FINAL FLIGHT POSSIBILITY
OF QZ883 FROM NDOLA (1945-2020). SHOULD
CONTINUATION OF TRAVEL TO LUSAKA BY CAR RATHER
THAN AIR BE CONSIDERED, DRIVING TIME IS APPROXIMATELY
4 HOURS ON GOOD HARD SURFACE ROAD.

4. ASSUMING USE OF US ARMY AIRCRAFT FOR LUBUMBASHI-
KINSHAS LEG AS NOW PLANNED, FOLLOWING ARE SUGGESTED
ALTERNATIVES FOR RETURN TRIP TO LUBUMBASHI THURSDAY,
NOV 7: QZ580 FROM LUSAKA AT 0700, ARRIVING NDOLA
AT 0740 FOR ONWARD SURFACE TRAVEL TO LUBUMBASHI.
SAME DAY THERE ALSO EVENING LUSAKA-NDOLA FLIGHT ON
QZ582 (1820-1900). THERE SIMILAR LUSAKA-NDOLA
(OR KITWE) POSSIBILITIES FRIDAY, NOV 8. PERHAPS
EASIEST WOULD BE DIRECT LUSAKA-KINSHASA ALITALIA
FLIGHT AZ855 FRIDAY EVENING DEPARTING AT 2110
AND ARRIVING KINSHASA 2245.
WILKOWSKI

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